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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Neubrandenburg Airfield

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

25X1

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 13 July 1954

REFERENCES

25X1

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

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REMARKS

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This is UNEVALUATED Information

1. Air activity observed at Neubrandenburg airfield between 24 May and 3 June 1954 included individual local flying and formation flying. On the evening of 24 May, an individual Li-2 and, after 2 minutes, 3 other Li-2s at intervals of 20 seconds took off. The aircraft assembled to formation of four while flying one third of a circle over the field. At intervals of 2 minutes, other formations of 4 Li-2s took off in the prescribed manner, flew two large circles over the field and landed individually. During several nights, there was individual flying until about midnight. At 1850 and 1930 on 31 May, one Li-2 each took off and released parachutists from an altitude of about 1,000 meters. The time of drop was exactly 4 minutes. Parachuting was practiced in a similar way on 3 June. The parachutists were about 22-year-old soldiers who wore suits resembling the former German summer flying suits without insignia. On 7 June, 17 Li-2s were counted at the dispersal areas.

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2. Between 1900 and 2000 on 31 May, parachute jumps were made from Li-2s. All the parachutes opened immediately after the jump. In May and early June, a unit consisting of 6 to 8 officers and about 25 EM was determined at the field. The officers wore air force uniforms, while the EM wore olive drab uniforms with trousers tucked into their boots and air force epaulets. During the second half of May, it was repeatedly observed that this unit received instruction on a parachute which was fitted on a wooden frame, 8 to 10 meters high.
3. About 1500 on 13 June, 18 Li-2s were observed at the field. On 16 June, a high-wing monoplane landed. A biplane was repeatedly observed landing and taking off from the field.
4. A ramp, 30 to 40 meters long, was observed along the eastern side of the railroad line just west of damaged building No 3. In late May, temporary building No 2 and the barrier nearby were dismantled. The guard personnel previously occupying that building moved to the northwestern part of building No 4 next to which the barrier was re-erected.²
5. Between 0800 and 0830 on 17 June, the troops stationed at the field were placed on alert. The personnel equipped with carbines and light field pack were seen in the quartering area. Ten trucks, ready for employment, were parked in front of the garages. Apparently the alert was given because of possible unrest on the occasion of the anniversary of the 17 June 1953, riots.³

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9. The names of Colonel Zakharov (fnu), Lieutenant Colonel Solenov (fnu), Senior Lieutenant Druzin (fnu), Sdorovtsov (fnu) and Vakhotin (fnu) and an officer Mikhailov (fnu) were identified on doors in the headquarters building. One door was enlettered "Depot of the Technical Department".⁶

1. Comment. Neubrandenburg airfield is still occupied by a transport regiment equipped with 20 to 22 Li-2s. The parachute jumps made in late May and early June probably involved personnel of an air landing unit.

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3. Comment. Stand-by status on 17 June was also reported from other airfields.

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6. Comment. Senior Lieutenant Sdorovtsov (fnu) or Sdorovtsev, was reported in connection with the transfer of the transport regiment from Schoenefeld to Alt Loomewitz in August 1953; the names of Lieutenant Colonel Solenov (fnu) and Colonel Mikhailov had already been identified on doors in the quarters at Neubrandenburg in April 1954.

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